

Harvard University,

Cambridge, April 18th, 1890.

Dear Mrs. Gray, -

I was sorry not to see Mr. Kidder on Monday. I was at a Corporation meeting when he called. Dr. Watson had already told me that Mr. Kidder proposed to raise a subscription for the Herbarium, and I was very glad to hear it, for it seemed to me that he would have a good chance of success. I quite agree with you that the Herbarium is now first object in the Botanical Department. Dr. Goodale said it in his last report, and in my last report I said that \$40,000 were needed immediately. You observed, perhaps, that Professor Sargent in Garden and Forest complained that \$40,000 was too small a sum to ask for, - that \$300,000 were needed.

I knew that Dr. Watson had very little time last year. This year I supposed that he would have some, but he said last week that he was making no progress with the Flora. I will do everything in my power to promote Mr. Kidder's undertaking, and shall be much obliged to you if you will point out to me any specific things, which I might do.

Very truly yours,

Charles W. Eliot

Mrs. Asa Gray.